



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

TO: All Development Services Department and Fire Department Customers

SUBJECT: **INFORMATION BULLETIN 118**
San Antonio Fire Department Policy on Fire Alarm Wiring Requirements for R-2 Occupancies

DATE: April 17, 2006

In response to the change in requirements from the 1997 Uniform Fire Code to the 2003 International Fire Code (IFC), the San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD) has developed the following official policy to clarify the 2003 IFC requirements for fire alarm wiring for Group R-2 Occupancies. When designing fire alarm systems for Group R-2 Occupancies, the customer is to meet the design conditions listed in this policy.

Note that the policy provides, under the Exception listed, an alternative method of compliance acceptable to the San Antonio Fire Marshal per Section 104.9 of the 2003 IFC. If utilizing this Exception (i.e., alternative method of compliance) for the design, the customer is required to submit a copy of the completed and signed owner letter of understanding form 6007 with the fire alarm permit application.

Should you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact Abel Flores - SAFD Fire Marshal at 210-207-7966

Attachment:

1. SAFD Fire Alarm Wiring Requirements for Group R-2 Occupancies Policy - # FP06007



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS SERVICES CENTER

FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

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April 11, 2006

Policy #06007

Memorandum For Record

From: Office of San Antonio Fire Marshal

Subject: Wiring Requirements for R-2 Occupancies

The 2003 IFC section 907.10.1.4 requires all Group R-2 occupancies which are required to have a fire alarm system to be provided with the capability to support visible alarm notification appliances in accordance with ICC A117.1. This requirement is met by extending the fire alarm wiring to all living areas, restrooms and sleeping areas of all units. The wiring must terminate in an electrical box suitable for securely mounting an audio/visual device. There shall be no more than ten devices designed for each circuit run. The building fire alarm wiring is to be extended to the unit smoke detectors so that audible/visible alarm notification appliances may be connected to the building fire alarm system to notify residents with hearing impairments of an emergency situation. A smoke detector activated in an individual unit shall not set the entire complex into alarm.

Exception: Group R-2 complexes that install a minimum of 200% of the visible and audible alarms required in table 907.10.3 for group I-1 and R-1 will be exempt from pre-wiring every individual unit under this section. For this exception to be used the owner of the complex must sign and return letter of understanding form 6007.

Chief Abel Flores
Fire Marshal's Office
San Antonio, Texas

To: San Antonio Fire Marshal's Office

Name of Complex: _____

Address: _____

Owners Name: _____

Subject: Exception to 2003 IFC Section 907.10.1.4

I am choosing to use the exception allowed by the San Antonio Fire Marshal's Office to comply with Section 907.10.1.4. I understand that if the rooms that are provided with audio and visual notification devices allowed under this exception are not available when a perspective handicapped tenant request a room, I will be required to provide a room with audio and visual notification. I also understand that I am required to obtain a licensed fire alarm company to install the devices. This fire alarm company will be required to submit fire alarm plans for this addition and obtain a permit from City of San Antonio development services before installing any new devices.

Owner

Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____,

Notary Public, State of Texas